

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY
MAYOR



CITY HALL
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
TEL: (201) 547-5200
FAX: (201) 547-4288

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Contact: Jennifer Morrill
Press Secretary
201-547-4836
201-376-0699

Mayor Healy to Welcome Zen Calligraphy Master GaeSan HyeSeong At City Hall Press Conference Master of Korean Traditional Zen Calligraphy to be Among Those Featured in November Art Exhibitions

JERSEY CITY - Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, members of the **Municipal Council** and the **Department of Health & Human Services/Division of Cultural Affairs** will hold a **10 a.m. press conference** honoring **Zen Calligraphy Master GaeSan HyeSeong** on **Tuesday, October 27, 2009** in the **City Hall Council Chambers, 280 Grove Street**. All are invited to attend.

Zen Master GaeSan HyeSeong, a Buddhist monk, has been practicing a very rare and unique style of Zen Calligraphy for more than 47 years. His exhibition – **Korean Traditional Zen Calligraphy** – will be featured in the Meagher Rotunda Gallery from November 4th – 30th along with **Paintings from the Hoyeon Art Association of New York** and a **Solo Exhibition by artist Bonnie Gloris**. The opening Reception will be held from **6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2009**, at City Hall, 280 Grove Street.

“We are pleased to have such a renowned and respected Zen Master exhibiting his exceptional artistic work in our City Hall Rotunda Gallery,” said Mayor Healy. “It is truly an honor and is reflective of our unique cultural diversity.”

Abbot HyeSeong Sunim has had many Zen Art Calligraphy exhibitions in both Korea and in the United States. Only a few people in the world have the capability to demonstrate this exceptional artistic beauty, where every stroke is meant to express the good energy and peacefulness which comes from the Zen Master’s heart. His good energy and peacefulness are said to transport themselves into the people who view his work.

In 1962, Master HyeSeong was ordained the Sunim of Bul Kuk Sa Temple. From there he went on to Graduate from Ton Do Buddhist College, Dong A University, and earned his Master’s Degree from Busan National University. He is also a recipient of an Honorary Doctorate in Buddhism from Sam Jang Academy of Taiwan.

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Currently, HyeSeong Sunim serves as Abbot Sunim of Kum Kang Sa Temple in Busan Korea.

Since 1979, Abbot HyeSeong Sunim has founded three Korean Buddhist temples in the United States--the Mumoonsa Temple in Detroit, Michigan, the Bub Run Sa Temple and the Catskill Zen Monastery, both of which are located in New York. In addition to his duties as Abbot and his art work, Abbot HyeSeong Sunim also serves as the president of the Buddhist Scriptures Translation HaeDong Society, the World Zen Tea Academy Center, and the Zen Art Society at the Catskill Zen Monastery.

The exhibits will run from November 4th through November 30th, 2009. Gallery hours are Monday – Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information, please call Greg Brickey, Art Curator, and Division of Cultural Affairs at (201) 547-4333.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///